

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action dated March 24, 2005. Appreciation is expressed to the Examiner for the allowance of claims 2-5 and 9 and for the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 16-19 and 23.

By the present Amendment, rejected independent claim 15 has been canceled, without prejudice to the applicants' right to proceed with the subject matter of this or related claims by way of a continuation application. In addition, each of the dependent claims 16-19 and 23 has been rewritten into independent form to incorporate the subject matter of claim 15 to place these claims in condition for allowance in light of the indication of allowable subject matter in the Office Action (if the claims were re-written into independent form). Also, the remaining rejected dependent claims 20-22, and 25 have been amended to depend on newly independent claim 16 and, accordingly, should be allowable in light of the allowability of claim 16.

With regard to claim 24, indicated in the Office Action as being rejected, applicants respectfully note that this claim was amended by the last amendment of November 24, 2004 to depend on claim 2. Inasmuch as claim 2 has been indicated in the Office Action as being allowed it is respectfully submitted that its dependent claim 24 should also be in condition for allowance. Therefore, such action is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes that there are any other points which may be clarified or otherwise disposed of either by telephone discussion or by personal interview, the

Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the number indicated below.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Docket No. 500.40562X00), and please credit any excess fees to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,
ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP

By 

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